

2003P06018WOUS
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Appl. No.: 10/554,412

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4, as follows:

The invention relates to a method and a device for orienting flat items of mail towards a narrow edge ~~according to the preamble of claims 1 and 3.~~

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 15.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 18, as follows:

~~In this case~~ According to one aspect, the thickness of the items of mail is measured before they pass through the conveying channel for orientation purposes. The distances of the lateral limit stops or limiting sections are changed by means of adjusting mechanisms for every mail item in such a manner that the item of mail at the end of the conveying channel is oriented towards its lower narrow edge by virtue of its own gravity and the distance of the lateral limit stops of the conveying channel from every item of mail during transport through the conveying channel is just wide enough for the item not to collapse at all nor to collapse partially even if its intrinsic stiffness is poor.